

Amendments to the Claims:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of treating late asthmatic response in a patient comprising a) determining the baseline IgE level in said patient, and b) administering to the patient a maintenance dose of an IgE antagonist and, optionally, a loading dose of the IgE antagonist wherein said IgE antagonist is (a) an antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof, that prevents the binding of free IgE to Fc_εRI, but does not bind to Fc_εRI-bound IgE, (b) a soluble IgE receptor or (c) or an IgE binding peptide capable of disrupting or blocking the interaction between IgE and its receptors .
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the maintenance dose is repeated at intervals of about 1 to about 90 days.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the maintenance dose is repeated weekly.
4. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the maintenance dose is repeated biweekly.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the IgE antagonist is an anti-IgE antibody.
6. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 5, wherein the antibody is chimeric.
7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the antibody is humanized.
8. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 5, wherein the antibody is a human antibody.
9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the antagonist binds to soluble IgE and blocks the binding of IgE to the IgE receptor on basophils.
10. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the antibody binds to soluble IgE and blocks the binding of IgE to the IgE receptor on basophils.
- | 11. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the loadingmaintenance dose is administered before onset of asthma symptoms.
- | 12. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the loadingmaintenance dose is administered after the onset of asthma symptoms.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the loading dose is greater than the maintenance dose.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the antagonist is administered in a formulation comprising a buffer, a salt, optionally, a polyol, and optionally, a preservative.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the antagonist is freeze-dried, then reconstituted before administration.

16. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the maintenance dose, and optionally, the loading dose reduce the concentration of free IgE in the patient's serum to less than about 40 ng/ml.

17. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the maintenance dose of antagonist is about 0.001 to 0.01 mg/kg/week/baseline IgE IU/ml.

18. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the maintenance dose, and optionally, the loading dose, results in a total serum concentration of antagonist of about 1 to 10 times greater than the patient's total serum IgE concentration.

19. (Currently amended) A method for treating late asthmatic response in a patient comprising (a) determining the baseline IgE levels in said patient, and (b) administering to the patient a dose of IgE antagonist averaging about 0.001 to 0.01 mg/kg/week IgE antagonist for every IU/ml baseline IgE in the patient's serum, wherein said IgE antagonist is (a) an antibody or antigen-binding fragment thereof, that prevents the binding of free IgE to Fc_εRI, but does not bind to Fc_εRI-bound IgE, (b) a soluble IgE receptor or (c) or an IgE binding peptide capable of disrupting or blocking the interaction between IgE and its receptors .

20-39. Canceled

40 (Withdrawn-Currently amended). A method of treating allergic asthma comprising a maintenance dose of an anti-IgE antibody in combination with the administration of an adjuvant therapeutic agent selected from the group consisting of antihistamine, theophylline, salbutamol, beclomethasone, dipropionate, sodium cromoglycate, a steroid and an anti-inflammatory agent.

41-43. (Cancelled).

44 (Withdrawn-Currently amended). The method of Claim 40, wherein the adjuvant therapeutic agent is theophylline.

45 (Withdrawn-Currently amended). The method of Claim 40, wherein the adjuvant therapeutic agent is salbutamol.

46 (Withdrawn-Currently amended). The method of Claim 40, wherein the adjuvant therapeutic agent is beclomethasone.

47 (Withdrawn-Currently amended). The method of Claim 40, wherein the adjuvant therapeutic agent is dipropionate.

48 (Withdrawn-Currently amended). The method of Claim 40, wherein the adjuvant therapeutic agent is sodium cromoglycate.

49 (Currently amended). The method of Claim 40, wherein the adjuvant therapeutic agent is a steroid.

50 (Withdrawn-Currently amended). The method of Claim 40, wherein the adjuvant therapeutic agent is an anti-inflammatory agent.

51 (New). The method of Claim 1 wherein the IgE antagonist is administered about 0.05 to 10 mg/mg on a weekly basis to a patient having about 40 - 200 IU/ml baseline IgE.

52 (New). The method of Claim 51 wherein the IgE antagonist is administered at a dose of about 0.1 to 1 mg/kg.

53 (New). The method of Claim 52, wherein the IgE antagonist is administered at a dose of about 0.5 mg/kg.

54 (New). The method of Claim 1 wherein the patient is administered a loading dose of IgE antagonist of about 1 to about 10 mg/kg, followed by a maintenance dose of about 0.1 to about 10 mg/kg.

55 (New). The method of Claim 54 wherein the loading dose is about 1 to about 5 mg/kg.

56 (New). The method of Claim 55, wherein the loading dose is about 2 mg/kg.

57 (New). The method of Claim 54 wherein the maintenance dose is about 0.1 to about 10 mg/kg.

58 (New). The method of Claim 57, wherein the maintenance dose is about 1 mg/kg.

59 (New). The method of Claim 1, wherein the maintenance dose is about 0.0005 to 0.05 mg/kg/week for every IU/ml baseline IgE.

60 (New). The method of Claim 59, wherein the maintenance dose is 0.001 to about 0.01 mg/kg/week baseline IgE.

61 (New). The method of Claim 60 which follows the administration of a loading dose of the IgE antagonist of 1 to 10 mg/kg.

62 (New). The method of Claim 61, wherein the loading dose is about 1 to 5 mg/kg IgE antagonist.

63 (New). The method of Claim 1, wherein the IgE antagonist is administered at levels sufficient to achieve a serum concentration in the patient of about 1 to 20 fold greater than total serum IgE concentration.

64 (New). The method of Claim 63, wherein the IgE antagonist concentration is about 3 to 5 fold greater than the IgE concentration.

65 (New). The method of Claim 63, wherein the IgE antagonist concentration is about 5 fold greater than the IgE concentration.